

Certificate of Charter

Office Of The Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Capitol Complex

WHEREAS, OKEMAH INDIAN Community has submitted its Community Constitution to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and that Constitution has been approved and found not to be inconsistent with or in violation of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,

NOW THEREFORE, I, the undersigned Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, do hereby grant an official Creek Nation Community Charter to:

OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY

Name of Community

Blanche L. Cox

Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation

August 11, 1986

Date

CONSTITUTION OF THE OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY

PREAMBLE

We, the people of the Okemah Indian Community of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, in order to preserve and enrich our tribal culture, promote a common welfare, and to secure and obtain for ourselves and for posterity, the benefits, rights, privileges and powers offered to us by and through the Creek Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby adopt and ordain the following Constitution and By-laws of the Okemah Indian Community. Further more, will adopt the Roberts Rules of Order (*Revised Edition*) as our parliamentary authority. (*Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.*)

ARTICLE I

OBJECTIVES:

Section 1.1 The objectives of the Okemah Indian Community shall be to promote the general welfare of the Okemah Indian Community and it's members by obtaining the benefits, rights and privileges provided by the law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma and to administer and carry out any programs made available for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma.

ARTICLE II

IDENTIFICATION:

- Section 2.1*** The name of this community is the Okemah Indian Community.
- Section 2.2*** The headquarters of the Okemah Indian Community shall be at the Community building located at 1100 South Division, Okemah, Oklahoma.
- Section 2.3*** The Okemah Indian Community, located in Okfuskee District, will operate within the boundary lines described as follows: Beginning at the S.W. corner of Section 34, T-10, R-9, at that point N. to the N.W. corner of Section 27, T-12, R-9, at that point E. to the N.E corner of Section 25, T-12, R-9, then S. to the N.E. corner of Section 1, T-11, R-9, at that point E. to the N.E. corner of Section 1, T-11, R-10, then S. to the N. side of Interstate 40 of Section 13, T-11, R-10, at that point West to the S.W. corner of the N.W. corner of Section 13, T-11, R-10, then S. to the S.E. corner of Section 35, T-10, R-10, thereupon W. to the S.W. corner of Section 34, T-10, R-9. (*Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.*)

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP:

Section 3.1 In conformance with the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution shall be those persons of Muscogee (Creek) blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906

(34 Statute 137) or persons who are lineal descendants of the Muscogee (Creek) Indian whose name appears on said roll, and who is not an enrolled member of another Tribe, Nation or Pueblo.

Section 3.2 Membership shall consist of Creek Citizens residing within the boundary lines of the Okemah Indian Community. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*

Section 3.3 An Associate membership shall be granted to all other Indians with the right to participate in community activities but without the right to vote or hold office.

ARTICLE IV

MEETINGS:

Section 4.1 Regular meetings of the membership of the Okemah Indian Community shall be held monthly on the third Monday of each month. The Chairman of the Okemah Indian Community shall have the authority to change the date of the meeting with prior approval of the voting membership at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*

Section 4.2 Special meetings of the Community may be called by the Board of Directors by public notice of at least four days. *(Amendment approved by DIC general membership meeting 12-7-92.)*

ARTICLE V

VOTING MEMBERSHIP:

Section 5.1 The members of the Okemah Indian Community shall be eligible to vote in the community elections provided a; he/she is an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, b; he/she is eighteen (18) years of age. *(Amendment approved by General Membership meeting 5-11-96.)*

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Section 6.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizens, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and member, residing within the boundary lines of the Okemah Indian Community. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*

Section 6.2 Board of Directors meetings will be held once a month prior to the general membership meetings or as needed, to prepare agenda and to conduct such business that lies within the authority of the board. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*

- Section 6.3** Any vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal or any other cause shall be filled at the next general membership meeting. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 12-7-92.)*
- Section 6.4** Election of the Board of Directors shall be carried out at the general membership meeting beginning in September 1983 and thereafter every two (2) years. The Directors will be seated immediately following the elections. *(Amendment approved by General Membership 5-11-86.)*
- Section 6.5** Elected Board of Directors shall serve for two (2) years; thereafter, Board members may be re-elected at the end of their term not to exceed two (2) consecutive terms of office. After a one (1) year waiting period a former Board members may be eligible for re-election (under Section 6.1) to the Okemah Indian Community Board of Directors. *(Amendment approved by General Membership meeting 12-7-92.)*
- Section 6.6** Any or all Board of Directors may be removed for cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3's) of the community membership of any regular meeting, or by an order of the courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Cause for removal may be:
- A. Conduct detrimental to the interest of the community.
 - B. Refusal to render reasonable assistance in carrying out the community purposes.
 - C. Failure to attend three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings of the Board without notification to an officer of the Board and/or community.
 - D. Performing any illegal act against the community.
- Any board member proposed to be removed shall be entitled to at least five (5) days notice of such intent in writing by certified mail of the meeting at which removal is to be voted upon and shall be entitled to appear before the community and be heard at such meeting. After three (3) consecutive unexplained absences, the community Secretary shall notify the member of his/her removal and reason. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-86.)*
- Section 6.7** Three (3) Board members including the Chairman, shall constitute a quorum of the transaction of business. An affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, including the Chairman, shall transact business and bind the community on any business matter except where a greater number of affirmative votes is required by law. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership meeting 12-7-92.)*
- Section 6.8** (Conflict of Interest)
- No person shall serve on the Board while employed with the Okemah Indian Community.

ARTICLE VII

Board of Directors Officers:

- Section 7.1** The Board of Directors shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and member. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.2** Officers shall be elected among the Board of Directors. Each officer shall hold office until his successor is chosen and qualified, until his death (during his/her tenure as Board member), until he/she shall have resigned or shall have been removed in the manner provided in Section 6.6. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.3** Any employee or agent elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board whenever in its judgment the best interests of the community will be served hereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the person so removed. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.4** The Okemah Indian Community Board of Directors shall have the power to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the community in establishing policies and procedures for the internal affairs of the O.I.C. i.e. Accounting, Personnel, Inventory, Building/Facility rental, Security, Maintenance and to appoint sub-ordinate committees and representative/s with powers thereof. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.5** The CHAIRMAN, not being an employee of the community, shall have active executive management of the operations of the community, subject to the control of the Board of Directors. The CHAIRMAN shall be a member Ex-officio of all committees. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.6** The VICE-CHAIRMAN shall keep himself/herself generally informed of the operations, substitute at the Chairman's absence and be in charge of the membership and promote the welfare of the organization.
- Section 7.7** The SECRETARY, shall keep and maintain all minutes, records of each of the Board of Directors and general membership's minutes, shall see that all notices are duly given, shall be custodian of the meetings minutes, records. *(Amendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)*
- Section 7.8** The TREASURER, shall keep correct and complete records of accounts showing accurately the financial conditions of the organization. The Treasurer shall be the legal custodian of all money's, notes, securities and other valuables that may at times come into the possession of the Okemah Indian organization and shall perform other duties as may be assigned. Treasurer shall immediately deposit all funds of the community coming into his/her hands in some reliable bank or other depository to be designated by the Board of Directors and shall keep such bank account in the name of the community. The Treasurer shall be required to furnish bond at the expense of the community; such amount shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

COMPENSATION:

- Section 7.9** A. The Board of Directors may be compensated for their services , however., the compensation or stipends of the Board shall be set by the community responding to a referendum.
(Admendment approved by the General Membership 1-15-96.)
- B. All travel and out-of- pocket expense incurred by a Board member on behalf of the community shall be reimbursed. *(Admendment approved by the General Membership 1-15-96.)*

ARTICLE VIII

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS, DEEDS AND CONTRACTS

- Section 8.1** All checks, drafts, notes, bonds, bills of exchange and orders for the payment of money of the community shall, unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors or unless required by law, be signed by any two (2) of the following: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Treasurer shall be appropriated by the majority votes of the Board of Directors in favor of the action.
(Admendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)
- Section 8.2** Subject to the specific direction of the Board of Directors, all written contracts and agreements to which the community shall be a party, shall be executed in its name by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and attested by the Secretary as required.

ARTICLE IX

BONDING:

- Section 9.1** All Directors, officers and agents of the community authorized to handle money's of the community shall execute a fidelity bond at the cost of the community in the amount as required and designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT:

- Section 10.1** The board of Directors may amend these by-laws with the approval of the general membership from time to time at any regular meeting, subject to the approval of the Principal Chief.
(Admendment approved by the General Membership 5-11-96.)

ARTICLE XI

ADOPTION

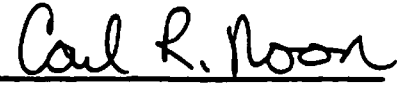
Section 11.1

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the general membership of the Okemah Indian Community and the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



**Perry Beaver,
Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation**

1-16-97
Date



**Chairman,
Okemah Indian Community**

5-11-96
Date